

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: UICMARK@aol.com
Subject: [7845] 40-9er transmit problem
Message-ID: <960429114231_480598241@emout13.mail.aol.com>

I've built a 40-9er, my first endeavour into radio kit buiding. The recieve seems pretty good but I am confused about the transmit. I have a Whiterook paddle/keyer which is supposedly a "positive keyed (switched to ground)" device. When I first plugged the keyer in, I overlooked that the tip of the mini phone plug was touching both positive and negative on the jack. I fixed this and still don't have any indication that I'm transmitting at all. I even fired up my big rig on a separate antenna to listen for a signal but didn't hear anything being generated from the 40-9er.

The only other odd thing that I can think of is that the RFC 1 & 5 that were supplied were not as described in the instructions. Instead of Silver-red-gold-red-silver they were Red-red-gold-black (or maybe black-gold-red-red).

Did I fry the transmit circuit when I shorted it? Did I use the wrong parts for RFC 1 & 5? Any other ideas?

Thanks for any help that you can offer. 73, Mark Hobson KE4ZBW

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: larsennc@alaska.net (Nancy-KL7NY/Jim-AL7FS/Julian-WL7MP)
Subject: [7827] Alaskan thanks the propagation gods
Message-ID: <v01510101ada992739fc7@[206.149.67.25]>

Greetings from Anchorage,

I had fun tonight! Oh...I only made three contacts on 40 meters but that was enough. I operated from 0335 to 0445Z.

0335 N5TWY called CQ, 439, no response
0338 N5SU called CQ, 559, no response
0341 WA6BVA no response
0343 K6ZX no response

0346 W00PW/7 Pat QSO complete
0356 KE6PMA Tim QSO complete with ragchew
0427 KN6YD/QRP 2 watts QSO complete with ragchew.

I was using my Ten-Tec Century 22 at 4 watts to a G5RV at 35 feet.

Hey, I know this doesn't seem like much....but it rings my chime. :-)

I hope to work more of you.

73,

Jim
AL7FS

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: H Smith <hbs@crl.com>
Subject: [7852] ATTENTION North Texas QRPers
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.960429092401.23265A-100000@crl4.crl.com>

ATTENTION North Texas QRPers!

We WILL be having a May Meeting THIS Saturday, May 4, 1996. :-):-):-)

Originally we decided to double up and make our QTTF outing serve as the May meeting because our normal meeting place was not going to be available.

HOWEVER, Plans have changed (YES!) and our regular meeting place WILL be available this Saturday.

Chuck, K5F0, sez he has photos of the Riley, NM QTTF site. (Whatta guy!)

We will also be discussing HAMCOM, Field Day and other future events.
Your presence is needed!

Don't forget, bring your latest toy, er that is, project so that the rest of us can gaze in wonderment and awe!

As usual, we will be meeting at 10 AM.

The meeting will be held at Chuck Adams' (K5F0) place of business in Addison, TX.

Directions to the meeting are:

First floor of the building on the southeast corner of Arapaho and Addison Rd. It's one block north of Beltline. Quorum Centre is the name of the building - three stories glass and brick.

Come into the main entrance and follow the signs to the SGI Training room.

CU There,

The NORTEX gang.

Henry Smith (hbs@crl.com)

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: Jim Hunter <jhunter@sunrise.alpinet.net>
Subject: [7854] combination qrp swr/longwire tuner
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.960429110840.11733G-100000@sunrise.alpinet.net>

Does anyone know of a good/inexpensive/small qrp swr/longwire tuner
if so about how much and what size????

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: David Adams <dave@flowserver.stem.com>
Subject: [7870] Foot Mobile advice sought
Message-ID: <9604292023.AA07762@flowserver.stem.com>

Greetings folks! In my effort to tame the Wild Waistband of N9UXU,
I have begun walking to work daily (not sure how many miles, takes
2.5-3 hours to walk, though...I'll have to measure it at some
point). Anyway, I've been using my 2m ht mounted in my backpack
with an mfj telescoping antenna to keep myself amused. However, as
I am always whining (to myself) that I never have time to practice
my code to so as to leap the 20wpm hurdle and pass the bleeding
test, I thought this might be an ample opportunity to work on the
code...

Okay...

I'm not sure how to go about this. I could just bring code tapes,
but they aren't much good after you've heard them once or twice. I
could through a qrp rig in my pack (as I have plenty of room for an
explorer and battery or 40-9er), but that leaves an antenna issue.
Something which could pull in the signals without being overtly
large...go figure.

Maybe I should build one of those pocket morse trainer things? Any
pointers here?

Lemme know if you have any suggestions..

dave

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David J Adams                N9UXU QRP-L #83
dave@flowserver.stem.com    NorCal QRP #1442
(415) 813-5028              Flow Cytometry Specialist
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From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: Brad Mugleston <bmug@gwl.com>
Subject: [7842] Gel -Cell
Message-ID: <199604291420.AA15493@gp-ipc54.gwl.com>

Im sorry, Im sorry, Im sorry. I know we've been through this but I didn't own a gel cell and didn't pay attention (Gee sounds like school). Well I now have one and what do I do?

Its a YUASA 12V 7.0Ah - with the following charging instructions printed on the side.

Stand by use 13.5 - 13.8 V No limit on current
Cyclic Use 14.4 - 15.0 V 1.75A Max

I have a 12VDC 1000mA AC-DC adaptor - can I use this? How do I test the battery for full charge. Please tell me what do I do?

Thanks,

De KB0ROL, Brad

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: "Harvey D. D. Hetland" <HDHETLAND@paccd.cc.ca.us>
Subject: [7867] N6MM QRP to the field
Message-ID: <2B3E9AA0A2A@manage.paccd.cc.ca.us>

My first attempt at QRP to the field, being a recent returnee to QRP. I decided to try Blue Ridge in the mountains near Wrightwood, CA,

where I had last operated in October, 1962. Unfortunately the campgrounds in the area do not open until mid or late May, so I departed at 1130Z on Saturday and arrived at 1315Z. Working by myself an elevated quarter wave vertical with eight radials was put up for 20m and a dipole at 30 feet for 40m. My first QSO was logged at 1545Z. All preparations started on Friday, I did not scout the area ahead of time, my antennas and the 40 Ah gel cell were too heavy to pack in to better locations, and I settled for a spot with a mountain toward the east, which may have hurt 20m. Elevation was about 7380 feet AMSL.

40m 74 QSOs 5 watts dipole Rig: OHR 400 with OHR WM-1
20m 34 QSOs 3 watts vertical wattmeter and MFJ 941B tuner.

Nice to QSO many QRP-list calls as well as Cam, HP1AC. Next year I plan to camp out over Friday night, haul my field day tower and beam with me, finish my CMOS III keyer, operate more bands (my Sierra is now working on all nine bands) and break 100 QSOs. Many thanks to all who were able to copy my signals.

73, Harvey, N6MM NorCal #1441, QRP-L #318 and QRP ARCI #51.

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nfld.com>
Subject: [7879] New QRP weapon: AK-1 (Long)
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960428235310.0074bb10@public.compuser.net>

QRP-L Gang,

This posting might prove offensive to many but the truth has to be told. The world must know. Also I give permission to post this in any of the QRP Club newsletters. I have no interest (patriotic or business) in this product but I am told that that if I deny any of this that my wife will collect all the ransom money !!

Cheers 73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

AK-1 NEW QRP ASSAULT WEAPON

By Bob Gobrick V01DRB/WA6ERB (email rgobrick@nfld.com)

Warning - a secured test facility is needed to properly put this new product through it's paces. It seemed like most of the Northern California QRP Club

"QRP To The Field" gang were setting up in old historic military posts or ghost towns. Those sites would have been fitting places to introduce this new QRP Contester's weapon - the Embedded Research's "Atomic Keyer AK-1".

So what's this new QRP "weapon". Well let me give a little cold war history first. A few months ago I was approached by two Internet QRP-L agents, Brad Mitchell WB8YGG and Gary Diana N2JGU and they asked if I would be interested in evaluating a new Project that they were working on in their rural wooded Upstate New York skunk-works. They wouldn't tell me what it was that they were working on but they did say they would send IT to me via courier (well let's just say the US Postal Service).

With trepidation, I visited my mail drop and found this package containing a little blue plastic molded enclosure with five little pushbuttons, a tiny piezo speaker and a fancy label saying "ATOMIC KEYSER AK-1". Mission Impossible de-ja vu. Included were some cryptic instructions telling me to plug an iambic key in one jack and my trusty QRP rig in the other jack and I would have a fitting machine to overwhelm the other "QRP To The Field" testers. Hmm. Not one to be duped, I took the little box back to my laboratory for a little "reverse engineering".

Four screws were undone on this prototype unit and voila there's the secret component - one of those new Microchip PIC16LC58A 8-bit RISC Microcontroller chips with a built in 2K ROM and 64 bytes of RAM. That and seven other parts are all that's on the circuit board so this should be a very simple unit to build in anyone's clandestine laboratory. But wait - there's no atomic energy source attached - just two little AAA batteries putting out a total of 3 volts. Really small. Well I guess they must have embedded the atomic power plant within the chip! This looks interesting since I've noticed a lot of activity lately in the PIC weapons arena. The last few issues of SPRAT has had some ads for a simple PIC keyer and Wilderness Radio also has available their new KC1 Keyer/Frequency Controller kit based on the PIC chip.

So what makes the AK-1 a lethal QRP weapon. Well for one, the QRP tester can embed two or more dynamic messages into the chip along with factory programmed static string messages (this prototype had two static messages). What this lets you do is link your token messages to come up with a contest cq string such as CQ QRP TEST, CQ QRP TEST de VOIDRB, VO1DRB K. And that's exactly the string I used to beat out my Newfoundland QRP competition during QTTF.

The keyer's speed control is unique and one that took a little getting used to. Instead of a manual speed control, the user taps one of the keyer's little pushbuttons and then hits the dit paddle to decrease speed or the dah paddle to increase speed. You exit the speed mode by tapping the opposite paddle. This method of changing speed seemed a little awkward at first but once I got the swing of it I found it quite functional. I'm told via my

underground moles that additional speed control enhancements are under wraps. And of course you save yourself needing a variable potentiometer - which is important when you need the keyer secretively small. The keyer is shipped for Mode B iambic keying and a 3:1 weighting. Both suited my hit-and-run style of contest operating just fine.

You might have noticed that an on-off switch was not mentioned. At a current consumption of quite a bit less than 500 microamps there will be no need to worry about battery drain. Also the unit is unique in that you can switch the little piezo speaker off using a "Practice/On-The-Air" toggle of a couple of pushbuttons (this let's you quietly send those encoded messages without being discovered by your spouse).

So that's as much as I can tell you about this new "secret" atomic engine. I found the prototype unit fun to use and as was suggested strongly to me by my counter-intelligent agents, this will become a secret weapon in my QRP arsenal. Late breaking news over the scrambled wire service - the declassified version of the AK-1 will be available to the general QRP public at the "Four Days in May (c)" QRP Symposium. Cost for the kit, which includes all board mounted parts, pc board and key jacks (not case, battery holder, battery) is said to be on the black market for about 30 rubels (dollars I mean). Now all you need to match this keyer is one of those Eastern European keys that the Kanga UK gang is bringing to Dayton.

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| Bob Gobrick - VO1DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada |
| QRPer Galore - ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP |
|   Internet:   rgobrick@nfld.com |
|               bgobrick@nlnet.nf.ca |
|   Compuserve: 70466.1405@compuserve.com |
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From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: "Brian.Buydens@usask.ca" <buydens@duke.usask.ca>
Subject: [7843] Non-symmetric dipole in QST
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.960429091837.24090A-100000@duke.usask.ca>

Recently I read an article about a dipole whose overall length was $1/2 * \lambda$ but was divided as $1/6 * \lambda$, $1/3 * \lambda$. The author claimed good results and a fairly constant 300 ohm impedance on several bands. Has anyone else tried such an antenna? I am looking for something that would work good with my 40-9er but would allow me to expand into other bands as time permits.

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+-----+
| Brian Buydens, Computing Services, University of Saskatchewan |
| email: Brian.Buydens@usask.ca |
| VE5RDV |
+-----+
| Albert Einstein, when asked to describe radio, replied: "You see, wire |
| telegraph is a kind of a very, very long cat. You pull his tail in New |
| York and his head is meowing in Los Angeles. Do you understand this? |
| And radio operates exactly the same way: you send signals here, they |
| receive them there. The only difference is that there is no cat." |
+-----+
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From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: H Smith <hbs@crl.com>
Subject: [7836] NORTEX to the field
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.960429052022.16060A-100000@crl14.crl.com>

The North Texas QRP Club set up for the QRP A Field at Point North Park in Richardson, Texas.

The day started with eggs, bacon, orange juice and biskits at the park. Only the hardcore came early since I was cooking. But all survived and we set up our 140 foot long wire in time to get started at 10AM Central.

Wouldn't you know it, our first contact was K5F0. Can't get away from that feller.

We worked 40 and 20 meters with a OHR Classic.

The wind just about blew us away, but everybody had a good time just the same.

Bob Kmak - KC5RAS
Dave Kreinberg - KK5HA
Charles Cashion - AC5GT
Bill Pirrard - K5JHP
Larry Jones - N50SG
Dennis Zeares - K3ETS
Mike Dooley - KE4PC
Smitty Smith - NA5K
and several visitors

CU on Field day.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: William McFadden <wmcfadde@oucsace.cs.ohiou.edu>
Subject: [7877] QRP to the Field from Athens OH
Message-ID: <199604300032.UAA08353@oucsace.cs.ohiou.edu>

Three members of the Athens County (Ohio) Amateur Radio Association participated in the 1996 QRP to the Field. The operators were Mike Hansgen AA8EB, Drew McDaniel W8MHV, and Eric McFadden WD8RIF. The group operated under the call WD8RIF. Due to other family obligations, the group was able to operate for only about two and half hours.

The operating location was a public picnic area in the Strouds Run State Park near Athens, Ohio. Operation was conducted on a picnic table, open to the elements. The weather was cool and windy, not nearly as warm and sunny as one would have hoped, but this is not surprising as QRP to the Field occurred on the date that used to belong to the Dayton Hamvention!

The station consisted of an original Index Labs QRP Plus running five watts into a 40 meter half-wave dipole suspended between two trees. The station was powered by a 2.5 Ah gel cell battery. Additional items taken but not necessarily used were a Heath HM-9 meter, MFJ-901B tuner, Super CMOS II keyer built by WD8RIF, and a Bencher iambic paddle, microphone, headphones, and external speaker. (This station is WD8RIF's Portable Station, and the entire package, including the battery, a 20 meter dipole, an 80 meter quarter-wave end-fed wire with quarter-wave counterpoise, antenna support line, a weight for throwing the line into the trees, logbook, DXCC list, writing paper, and pencil fits in a recycled laptop computer case for easy travel.)

The three operators had a good time operating for the short period available, and are looking forward to a QRP Field Day in June.

The relaxed operation netted 28 contacts with stations in the states of NJ, WI, CT, MS, PA, IL, VA, TN, AL, NY, DC, MI, MD, MO, and NH, and the province of ONT.

Score:

QSO on 1 band/mode (40 meter CW)

28

Power Multiplier (5 watts) 5
Location Multiplier (Field Location) 4
Equipment Multiplier (Commercial Eqpt) 2

(#QSO) x (power multiplier) x (location) x (equipment) =
28 x 5 x 4 x 2 = 1120

All operations were CW.

--

W. Eric McFadden WD8RIF
wmcfadden@ohiou.edu

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: Mike J Pulley <Mike_J_Pulley@ccm.ch.intel.com>
Subject: [7868] QRP to the Field Report from AZ

Life is good!

Camping in the cool, sunny pines of north Arizona, operating beside a trickling mountain stream while a no-compromise wire antenna sways 60' overhead. No generator noise, plenty munchies, and pleasant, curious visitors who stop by. In our case, "QRP" means "Quintessential Radio Pleasure".

Larry Gass, KG7WS, and I operated the contest from Christopher Creek, about 20 miles east of Payson, AZ. We camped with our families near the face of the Mogollon (pronounced "moggie yone") Rim, a sheer 1000' rock bluff that snakes across Arizona's midsection. The weather was mostly sunny, breezy, with highs in the lower 80's. KD0SU, Rick, reported snow falling in CO, so I couldn't bear to tell him that we were sitting outside in shirt sleeves!

MOST ASKED QUESTION: "How did you get that wire up in those trees so high?" (We used my trusty wrist rocket with spinner reel.)

AIR MOBILE FLIES BY: Steve Thompson, AB7PF, and crew tipped their wings in our direction around 1pm. He was working people on 2m FM left and right as they zoomed by at 10,000 feet.

FAMOUS PEOPLE WE WORKED:

AA7TQ, Dave, AZ (We heard Dave once by NVIS or reflection off a passing plane, but couldn't get his attention.)
Heard someone calling K5F0, but never heard Chuck himself.
KB50B, Jim, CA

WT6P, Grover, CA
W0HEP, Rich, CO
KD0SU, Rick, CO (sorry about the snow!)
AB50U, Tim, NM
KI6SN, Rich, CA (I called you "Keith" on the air - sorry!)
NA5K, Smitty, TX (not a strong signal, but plenty persistent)
WU7F, Bob, WA (the man who will compile the logs; write legibly!)
WA7FCU, Bob, UT
VE6GK, "Doc", AB (were you airborne as planned, Rick?)
KV9X, Brian, WA
AE4IC, Bob, NC (I've submitted for your 1000 m/W award from the
Fox Hunt. Watch your mailbox.)

EXOTIC CONTACTS:

HP1AC, Camilo, Panama (always a rush working him!)
KL7JAF, Bruce, and AL7FS, Jim (2 Alaskans in one day - wow!)
YS1ZRB/qrp (heard him working stns on 20m around 0000Z)

CONTEST RESULTS: 40m: 43 Q's
20m: 51 Q's
4620 claimed points

THE TECHNICAL DETAILS: Rigs - NE-40/40 (40m kit, 1.5W) and MFJ-9020
(20m commercial, 5W). Antenna - Carolina Windom/2 (40m version)
suspended 60' over Christopher Creek, coax fed, MFJ-971 tuner. Keying
- Palomar PM-50 memory keyer, Bencher paddles. Power - 12V gel cell.
Logging & duping - paper and pencil.

Regards,

-- Mike Pulley, WB4ZKA
Phoenix, AZ
Mike_J_Pulley@ccm.hf.intel.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: weinfurtner@ouvaxa.cats.ohiou.edu (Greg Weinfurtner)
Subject: [7853] QRP to the Field!
Message-ID: <v01510100adaa65e42c7f@[132.235.72.11]>

Gang,

Here is the results from a great Saturday TTF! Location was the
Waterloo Fire Tower near Athens, Ohio.(Southeastern OH)

UTC	Station	Loc.	Freq
1528	KG2AI	NJ	40SSB
1535	AC5EH	AR	"

1545	WX8R	MI	"
1600	K5HQV	MS	7.04 mhz CW
1610	KE4GBE	GA	"
1630	VE3QDR	ON	"
1638	N4EHL	VA	"
1711	N5?		"

Heard:

UN5G, VE2NAU, N3CSE, KM4AT, N2CX, WA8JOC, K8MN/OH, WA2RSX, N0JA

Rig: TS-520s. Powered by running off an alternator that I rewound to produce 120vac at idle speed of my 83 Nissan Sentra.(What a machine...!)
 Yep, it's about 200-300 cycles, er um...Hertz at that voltage, but hey, the '520 didn't mind. Had to unplug the cooling fan though, it didn't like that freq!

Power was 5 watts more or less, according to the wattmeter of questionable origins...

Antenna was a 40/20/15 mtr trap dipole.

I had a turkey hunter stop by the location and ask about the set-up. He was impressed!

Hope everyone else had a good time! 73, 72 de

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*****
*                               Greg Weinfurtner AEE BSS *
*      NN      N      SSSSSSS  88888888  00000000  Electronic Design Splst *
*      N N     N      S      8      8      0      0  Ohio University   Athens *
*      N N     N      SSSSSSS  88888888  0      0  GO BOBCATS! *
*      N      N N      S      8      8      0      0 *
*      N      NN      SSSSSSS  88888888  00000000 *
*                               Can thou send forth lightnings *
*                               Amateur Radio      that they may go and say unto *
*                               thee, 'Here we are'? Job 38:35 *
*      weinfurtner@ouvaxa.cats.ohiou.edu *
*      http://ouvaxa.cats.ohiou.edu/~weinfurtner *
*****

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From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
 From: Joe Gervais <vole@primenet.com>
 Subject: [7830] QRP TTF - AZ ScQRPions
 Message-ID: <199604290809.BAA05393@primenet.com>

QRP to the Field '96, AZ ScQRPions

"A Tale of Heat, Rattlesnakes, and Rigs"

SUMMARY

Station Call: NQ7X
Best 8 Hours (UTC): 1400-2200
Rattlesnakes Encountered: 1
Temperature: Around 100 degrees F.
Eligible QSO's: 60
Score: 3200 pts.
Fun Meter: Pegged for most of the day.

The antennas and rigs have been packed up, the camping site cleaned, and the logs are being tallied. Oh yes, and a bit of sunburn is being tended to. :-)

QRP TTF '96 was great fun. (Then again, how could it ever **not** be fun?) The AZ ScQRPions split up into two operations: The White Tanks Cactus Crew and the Air Mobile Bunch. I'll let Steve (AB7PF), Kent (AB70A) or one of the other airborne folks fill us in on their adventures. Here's how we land-lubbers fared.

Our site was the White Tanks Regional Park, a beautiful piece of the Sonoran desert nestled against a small range of mountains. Sweeping views of the Phoenix valley, plenty of desert critters, and large saguaro cacti (the "classic" cactus you always see in the Roadrunner cartoons. Well, so my kids tell me. Ok, ok, so I still watch cartoons. Helps me keep my sanity in between winding toroids. Hasn't worked as well as I'd hoped...). We set up at 0700 Friday morning, giving us plenty of time to get the kinks worked out and play a bit.

Brian (W5VB0) and Floyd (NQ7X) were the first to arrive Friday morning and got to work assembling the two-element beam for 20/15/10m. I showed up just in time to help raise the beast. The operation took an interesting twist, however, when I saw a rattlesnake under our table. Of course we'd been joking about snakes for awhile (bungie cords make great fake snakes, BTW) so Floyd nearly walked into the critter before everyone realized that I (for once in my life) was being serious. The poor critter was anxious to get away from us (probably sick of me pointing at a bungie cord and yelling

"snake!") so we backed off and let him go on his way. On his way out he slithered past our NorCal-40a though, so Floyd got out his telephoto lens and snapped a few pictures of the two together (from a respectable distance, of course!). Time to put that on a t-shirt with the caption, "QRP is not for Sissies". Besides, we'd read somewhere that rattlesnakes don't eat ScQRPions. Sure, they may *chomp* on 'em a few times, but they'd never actually eat one. Not without ketchup.

Dave (AF5U) arrived soon after and helped put the finishing touches on the vee beam for 40m/80m. And to chuckle at the snake story. Before long Camp ScQRPion was ready to go. I went back to work (I'd been playing hookey - shhhh!) and Floyd went off to run some errands. That left Dave and Brian at the ScQRPion outpost. Now desert survival is serious business, requiring expert skill and cunning. To succeed in this parched landscape, one must merge with the rythm of nature, becoming part of the desert itself. So they went and ordered a pizza to go.

The rest of the afternoon passed quietly. Brian, Rich (KB7YEB), and I spent the night at the camp, sleeping under the desert sky. Actually not much sleeping occurred. Instead we yacked all night. And kept an eye out for snakes. Both eyes, actually.

Dawn brought the usual great views unique to the desert. You could spend your whole life here and still not be jaded to the splendor of a golden/rose dawn, silhouetting the cactus as it burns away the night. It was all the more beautiful with a two-element beam thrown into the picture. Now if only I could get my neighbors to agree....

The overnigheters put on the finishing touches, waiting for the others to arrive. We used Floyd's call (NQ7X) and took turns operating so everyone could have a chance. Of the herd of rigs we had, we chose to use a QRP+ for 40m and a NW8020 for 20m. Guess we could've used the NorCal-40a for more points, but we weren't too concerned about it. The morning started off a bit slow, but quickly picked up. It was great to hear so many QRP stations on the air! Before long the other ScQRPions were showing up. Dave came back, followed by Mike Connor (NQ7K), Mike Todd (W9UQB), and Russ (AB7X).

Right around 1600 UTC, the Amazing Flying ScQRPions(tm) buzzed our camp and we made a contact on 2m. Sounded like they were having alot of fun up there. Guess the roasted peanuts and in-flight movie were top notch. They headed off

into the wild blue yonder and we were able to contact them on 40m later in the day.

Before long the temperature had climbed near 100F, but with windchill it was probably a brisk 95F. Luckily some of us had brought our jackets to keep the chill off. You even had to use a *stove* to get your coffee to boil. And the best you could do with eggs on the hood of your car was poached, not fried. Maybe next year we could have the contest a bit later so we desert folks don't have to suffer in the bitter cold like this. Or maybe we'll just bring out a few heatlamps.

The operation went smoothly all day. Since there were plenty of people waiting for their turn to operate NQ7X, I made an impromptu decision to run a rogue operation with my QRP+ under my own call. Luckily my fellow ScQRPions didn't think any less of me for abandoning the group effort. Then again, I *did* end up with all the logs at the end of the day. Hmmm.

Highlights of the day included working AB50U/M (bonus points to Tim for not letting a little car trouble keep him off the air...), V01DRB in Newfoundland, and a host of QRP-L regulars. Actually to be honest, every contact was a highlight. Don't think I've ever heard that many QRP stations on the air at one time. Please folks, send those logs in. Scores don't matter, but it'll be great for the QRP hobby if a few hundred contest logs show up in WU7F's mailbox. Bob's mail-delivery critter may not agree, but what the heck. :-)

Hope to hear you all on the air. I'm off to build a 30m antenna for the summer experiment.

7.3 de KC7NEV,

-Joe, AZ ScQRPion #7, vole@primenet.com

PS- I tried working the Novice band for awhile, but no luck. Sorry if I missed anyone up there.

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: kd0su@kkktv.com
Subject: [7821] QRP TTF Report
Message-ID: <TCPSMTP.16.4.28.-11.28.18.2240783031.1075524@kkktv.com>

It sure was a great time. My apologies to those of you who copied my CW. It is hard to make the paddle work right when you are wearing gloves and trying to synchronize your keying to the chattering of teeth and knocking of knees. Springtime at 9000 ft in the Rockies makes things interesting. The snowflakes caused a lot of smearing of the log but I don't think I lost anyone because of that.

Thanks to Doc, W0MCT for the field location near the Florrisant Fossil Beds west of Colorado Springs (Teller County if anyone needs it for a Colorado QRP Club county Award). Doc provided the antennas as well as general support. N0UVR was the other operator and we all had lots of fun.

N0UVR made 6 contacts on 20 meters, and I had 25 contacts (21 on 40 mtrs and 4 on 20 mtrs). We were using commercial equipment this year. Next year we will look for a warmer climate!!

If you were looking for CQC members, we were listed as CQC - 3. Thanks to the NORCAL folks for sponsoring this event.

73, Rick
KD0SU

CQC #100
QRP-L #539

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: Larry East <LVE1@inel.gov>
Subject: [7875] QRP+ on a Spectrum Analyzer
Message-ID: <2.2.16.19960429213747.27cf2b9e@garnet.inel.gov>

If you have looked at the output of the QRP+ (or QRP++) on a spectrum analyzer, or have the capability to do so, please send me private email; I'd like to compare notes.

Thanks, Larry W1HUE/7

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: GREGOIRE@ENDOR.COM (ERNEST GREGOIRE)
Subject: [7876] QRP++, racks up freq.flyer miles
Message-ID: <199604292317.TAA80929@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Hello Gang,

I hesitated in writing this note until my newly upgraded/degraded/
and upgraded again QRP++ returned from a stint of bench time in
Gig Harbor.

The long and the short of it is that I had the original QRP+ upgraded
to a QRP++. It came back severely degraded. It was very unpleasant to
listen to on CW. Each dit and dah had a click at the end of it. Impossible
to listen to for an entire contest. The AGC severely chopped the incoming
CW. The keyer worked though, and the SSB output was much stronger. Actually
it was too strong.

I will try out the SSB tonight if there is anyone on
our local club net, (28.361)@ 20:30 E.D.S.T.

Now for the good news.

I just got it back today and caught the W1AW broadcast, whoops, I mean
code practice on 80 meters. Everything was in order. I had my ole rig
back again. There was just a pleasant sounding CW, no clicks, no AGC
attacking and clipping the CW and this was without the 20 db pad.

The only problem was the lack of any record as to what happened and
how it got fixed. Not that it matters that much, but I am curious.
After all, this is a well traveled radio folks! I also got my old boards
back, from the old QRP+. A call to Index didn't get me much more information.
All Tim could say was that the rig was fixed by Bruce himself.

This was all at no charge, minus shipping one way of course.

I was disappointed with the ++ upgrade when it first arrived. I suppose this
kind of thing can happen in shipping too, shipping companies being required
by law to hire gorillas to bounce test all packages marked "Fragile".

Index did make good on it's commitment for a new 1 year additional
warranty.

So there you have it. I haven't read much here about the satisfaction level
regarding the upgrade to QRP++ here on the reflector. Any comments?

de AA1IK N.E.-QRP-C. # 202 (Lead by example, It is better to)
 QRP-L member #95. (pull a string than it is to push it.)

Ernie Gregoire
RR 1 Box 221
Canaan, NH. 03741

New England QRP Club, information

e-mail : GREGOIRE@ENDOR.COM
packet : AA1IK@WA1WOK.FN43FE.NH.USA

This weekend I had field trip with my son's Cub Scout pack so I spent all of 30 minutes of the last hour of the contest operating. But it was fun. There seemed to be a *lot* of stations out there in the contest. I only heard one person sending "LID" (not to me, of course,) so it was more polite than most contests.

>>>==>PStJTT

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: kv9x@scn.org (Brian High)
Subject: [7825] QRPTTF '96 Seattle!
Message-ID: <199604290452.VAA13330@scn.org>

This is Marcia (KC7MCW) and Brian (KV9X) writing from the comfort of our shack, ruminating over our fond memories of QTTF '96.

This year we loaded up the wheel-barrow (our station wagon) with the QRP+, KC1, a laptop computer, and a bunch of batteries for a 10 block stroll to Licton Springs Park.

This park is one of the few wetlands remaining in Seattle. In the old days, Seattle had many wetlands (bogs) with lots of springs. The Native Americans came to them to use the water and mud for medicinal and spiritual purposes. This site was a monument to those long-gone natural wonders.

Our dipole ran from the street, over the spring, to a tree overlooking the marsh. We used our 80 meter dipole from last Field Day. It is a famous Bic (TM) Flamethrower (with tv twinlead feedline.) The feedline came down to a wooden shelter containing the bathrooms. I pulled a picnic table under it the night before to make sure it would be dry. It has been raining alot recently.

I got up at 4:30 am PDT and packed the wheelbarrow so we were able to be at the site at 6 am. We had the antenna up by 7:15 and were able to check into the NWQRP Club's net early at 7:26. Thanks to the check-ins for allowing us to rack up some quick points! What a nice way to start a contest.

Well, the bands weren't so hot, but it sure was nice working some of the folks on this list. We also heard a lot more folks from here as well, but were not able to make a QSO out of it. Perhaps at Field Day!

We made 36 QSOs, all CW, almost all were in the contest. We were also visited by a few neighbors, dogs, cats, birds, etc. We left before the frogs started croaking from the bog. We were quite cold in the morning, but finally, the sun came out in the afternoon. (We had to jog around the park a few times to keep warm!)

It was quite a spiritual event, due mostly to the sleep deprivation, the love-energy between the operators, and the novelty of operating out in the neighborhood. Thanks to all who participated and to the NorCal Club for sponsoring the event.

--Brian and Marcia

--

***** Brian High *****
* INTERNET: kv9x@scn.org PACKET: kv9x@kv9x.ampr.org *

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: "P. Grover Cleveland" <wylde@nccn.net>
Subject: [7880] QRPTTF from Malakoff Diggins (sic)
Message-ID: <199604300052.RAA28546@nccn.net>

Lots of fun - I am revitalized after basically shutting off the rigs about two years ago. I always seem to come back to qrp.

Malakoff Diggins is a California State Park here in Superior California. It is the site of the world's largest hydraulic gold mine - over a square mile of land about 200 feet deep was washed through "long toms" in the search for gold. It was shut down by the courts when folks complained about the silting in San Francisco Bay about 150 miles away. Now there is a small restored town with a few residents far enough from civilization that the power comes from a community generator.

There are "miner's cabins" that one can rent for a night and beautiful valley oaks and pine trees into which one can launch antennas (it helps to personally know the ranger in charge).

The first contact was no other than Chuck K5FO (he's always first) and 35 qsos for 2100 points. Rig was a HW-9, solar powered, antenna a dipole.

73 to all and thanks for being there.

Grover
WT6P

- - -
P. Grover Cleveland
WT6P
ARCI 3795 NorCal 216
Archaeoferroequinologist

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
Subject: [7855] QRPTTF Riley Rpt (long)
Message-ID: <199604291709.LAA07865@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>

The Riley Report de NA5N

Inspite of all our problems and the weather (brutal winds), we had a blast at Riley. (Blast: blowing sand moving horizontally at 60 knots).

Started packing the 4x4 friday morning and promptly blew the water pump while getting gas. Begged to use my son's 4x4 (who arrived thursday for a week's leave from the sub service). He said OK. About 7pm, met with Tom KB5QYT from Albuquerque ... we were the "advance guard" into Riley. Few miles out of town, got stopped by a NM State Patrol for speeding. Real embarassing when you have fellow hams following you and the entire repeater association listening! We finally arrived Riley about 10pm. By 11pm, Tom and I had erected TWO tents and a travel trailer. QRPTTF BONUS POINTS: 500 x3 (Erecting tents/trailers in the dark)

Then we sat and sat and sat, staring at a Coleman lantern, waiting for Jay Miller WA5WHN to arrive with our distinguished guests. You know how quiet and dark a ghost town is at midnite? Jay finally arrived about 2:15am with his son Jason KB5OME, Doug Hendricks KI6DS and Chuck Adams K5FO. Really fun meeting famous people in the pitch dark. QRPTTF BONUS POINTS: 250 x3 (Meeting famous hams by flashlight).

No sooner had Jay parked his brand new 4x4 (Ford Explorer?) than you could hear air leaking from not one, but TWO tires. Within a couple of minutes, Jay's vehicle was listing to port pretty bad. We finally crashed at some weird hour.

Morning came AWFULLY fast. We all got up. So that's what Doug and Chuck look like - a lot different in bright sunlight than in the beam of a flashlight! Somehow, probably just trying to navigate in the dark, Doug squashed and broke his glasses in the tent. We jacked up the port side of Jay's 4x4 and threw two flat tires in the back of my (my son's) pickup, and Doug and I took off for the small town of Magdalena some 30 miles away. Got two tires fixed, had a "Magdalena Omlet" at the ONLY restaurant open, then took off for the 25 mile drive to the Very Large Array - world's largest radio telescope (where I work). Inside the labs, Doug and I performed meticulous surgery on his pair of glasses. With a little super glue, #30 wirewrap wire, solder, etc. - I mean Dr. Pearle would be proud of us. Doug put on his glasses, and seems his first words were "Where the hell are we?" Gave Doug the nickel tour of the VLA (plus a few choice surplus parts for a 40-9er/Altoid project). QRPTTF BONUS POINTS: 500 x2 (flat tire repair)

500 (emergency optometric repair)

Half hour later, back in Magdalena and stopped at the ONLY grocery store in town for some steaks. I was at the meat counter with an arm full of steaks, eggs, etc. when Doug rushes in and says "Quick ... AB7PF, the aeronautical mobile is over Riley and wants to work you." So I dropped all my groceries in the meat counter, ran outside the store, grabbed my handheld and worked Steve AB7PF/AM. Was the highlight of my day. Went back into the store and tried explaining to the poor ole meat counter guy what the emergency was. I don't think he was as impressed as was I.

Finally about noon, got back to Riley with fixed tires, glasses and food. Tim Pettibone AB5OU setup his station at an old abandoned house, a 20ft. mast and a long zepp with his QRP+, doing fairly well. The other station was KB5QYT's travel trailer, IC-706 and vertical, somehow managed to place on a tin roof for ground plane - and worked well. About this time, the wind started and within no time, so strong, I could NOT get up either of the two antennas I brought (inverted vee/30 foot mast and my 2-element phased array). We time shared using Tom's station, with myself, KI6DS, K5FO, WA5WHN, etc. working a dozen here, dozen there. Did I mention it was windy?

QRPTTF BONUS POINTS: 500 (Gale force winds)

And to the N8ET gang ... we T00 flew a kite antenna for awhile, but the strong wind broke the kite in two and down it came. Didn't have a single QSO on it. Did I mention it was really windy?

QRPTTF BONUS POINTS: 250 (Busticated kite, crashed and burned)

Of the 15 or so QSO's, about half were very familiar calls, with 6 or so QRP-L members. Left logs at home, but remember working AA7QY (Mogollon Rim), WA7FCU (Canyonlands, UT), K0FRP, W0HEP, KB0SRY, etc. at CQC-1 nr Denver, the CQC-2 site on Pikes Peak and a couple of others. Those were the best contacts, and a few turned into some nice short QSO's ... all of us in the west complaining about the wind. Did I mention it was windy?

About 3:30pm, Tom had to close up his station as he works as a conductor for the Santa Fe Railroad and had to get back to Albuquerque to work. We got his vertical down, now blowing wildly in the wind; got his travel trailer packed up and off he went. There went our station, antennas and WIND SHIELD. That left only AB5OU left with a working station. So we sat around in the wind, Doug showing off his Altoids 40, Chuck his neat paddles, etc. Kinda an informal NorCal meeting. (Even decided on next year's QRP TTF theme!). By 5pm, the wind and sand continued to pelt us, no way to erect another antenna, our tents blown down by the wind, etc. We held a "Council of War" and decided to cook our steaks, then pack up and get out of Dodge (er, Riley actually). Did I mention it was windy? We were planning on a nice camp fire saturday nite and spend the night, but not when you can't even keep a tent on the ground.

QRPTTF BONUS POINTS: 500 (Eating WA5WHN's cooking)

Although, K8BI's and N5ZGT's cooking was pretty good. K5QQ from ABQ was also at Riley for awhile, delivering some ice and food, and Howard K9PV showed up for awhile (he had setup a tent and station on the Rio Grande, but got blown away also). I've probably forgotten a ham or two that was there. Shortly before sundown, Riley was once again a ghost town and we were all on our ways home.

We probably have 200 QSO's or so sum total (thanks mostly to AB5OU), but the fun factor was tremendous. In spite of the wind, it was one of the best times I've had in a long time. Can't wait for the NEQRP QRP Afield

in September. Will do Field Day to warmup for the QRP Afield.

I've never met Doug KI6DS or Chuck K5FO before, and that of course was a pleasure for us all. Upon meeting them, you can see why NorCal, QRPP, QRP-L, the FOX hunts, etc. are such successess ... they are the results of hard work by a couple of hams who are smart, love the hobby, and very energetic to promote QRP.

CU for the next one,
Paul NA5N

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: Jerry Parker <jparker@fix.net>
Subject: [7847] QRPTTF Rules Info Reports
Message-ID: <199604291555.IAA00958@fletch.fix.net>

QRPTTF RULES INFO REPORTS

<http://www.fix.net/norcal.html>

73'es,,,Jerry...WA6OWR

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [7850] QTTF
Message-ID: <199604291636.QAA27957@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

It is good to see the many postings of the weekends doings.

Friday afternoon about 2pm I was in a panic about getting away to the airport. A machine failure in loading 16 systems over the LAN halted a long process, but I said to heck with it. I'll fix it on Monday. There are important things in life that just can't wait. :-) QTTF is one of them. I had a 4 o'clock flight and I had to run by the home QTH and pack.

So off to the airport, make the flight, we're on the way to San Jose ^h^h^h^h oops (wrong song) that's next Saturday after the NorTex meeting. I get into Albuquerque, NM about 5pm, take a cab to a mall to kill about 4 hours (got a good deal on a house, but didn't take it) and then back to the airport to wait for Doug KI6DS. He gets in at midnight then Jay WA5WHN and his son Jason pick us up in front of the terminal. You can't get any better service than that anywhere. Doug and I didn't even have to whip out the passports either. :-)

Arrived at Riley 2am and about 60 seconds after we get there, two flats. That's close gang, very close.

Did anyone mention the wind?

Next morning at sunrise it's up early and the group helps Tom put up the vertical upon a tin roof for one of the antennas. IC-706 at 3W and at 0757MDT I work my first contact. 10 Qs in 15 minutes and then a break to help with other chores around the site. Others arriving and chatting, helping with equipment etc. And just having a good time.

Highlights.

1. Only about 2 hrs or so of operating with 41 Qs at 3W (QR0?)
2. Riley wins the wind award with gusts over 50mph.
3. Picked up 5 pounds of sand in boots, bags, and hair. Probably ate about 1/2 a pound too.
4. Kites in high winds are very interesting. Main spar failed after getting about 200' of wire up, tied off, and inside setting up tuner when it broke.
5. Fly over by the AZ group. That alone was worth the plane ticket to get there. This group gets my vote for the most dedication and most unusual location. Thanks guys.
6. No rattlesnakes, no scorpions, and no centipedes spotted.
7. I'll take the Dayton wx over the desert. Now I remember why I left west TX. :-)
8. 40M was open long and all day. Seemed unusual, but maybe not.
9. 10,000 acre fire to the north of Albuquerque.
10. A look at Paul Harden's book. A must have item.

Thanks to the NE club for starting the first To-The-Field (TTF) event and thanks to the many dedicated QRPers who took the time and the trouble to get out, get on, and really make this work. If we had a party and noone showed, it'd still be fun but it is certainly much more enjoyable to share it with the many who have "been there - done that". Thanks to the NM gang for the hospitality shown to Doug and myself. We certainly hope to

be able to reciprocate later.

We'll all have pictures at Dayton and other QRP functions to show this off. The Web pictures that Jay has up give you some idea but it's a lot better being there.

Dr. Tim Pettibone, AB50U, setup his mobile station at the north end of the "valley" next to some hills. I hiked a pretty long distance (it seemed that long across the desert :-)) several times to visit his setup. He started out with a hamstick on top of the van and then later graduated to a zepp up about 5 meters. He did 80 Qs, thus he won the Riley NM bragging rights to most Qs. There was some heated discussion later in the day about what he really did, but did we mention that the wind was factored in and the fact that he may have had a dup may have put him in second place? I thought that I saw his logs blowing across the desert. Tim did you catch them?

Doug and I were picked up at the hotel on Sunday morning and driven to a mall to get Doug's glasses fixed. Wind damage to tent prevented another night on the hard ground. Thanks to Brian N5ZGT (16 yrs old) and his dad Pat for the hospitality. The discussions were already started about what "theme" to use for next year. I'll let Jay and Paul start the discussion.

It's hard to believe that April is about over with and we haven't had Dayton yet. :-)

It was fun. Let's do it again. dit dit

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com

30M 1996 Study Qs=000 States=00 Confirmed=00 DX=00

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996

From: gmdsr@vivanet.com

Subject: [7881] QTTF '96

Message-ID: <31856D38.3385@vivanet.com>

Hello All -

We ran QTTF as N2JGU from Portageville NY, about 45 mi. southwest of Rochester NY. Scott KB2GWF, Don N2NNF, Brad WB8YGG, and myself N2JGU were there to operate the portable setup. We operated from a shack Don built when he was a kid! Believe me, it was a REAL RADIO SHACK!

Rigs included: (2) TenTec Argosys (running QRP of course)
(1) A&A Engineering 40m CW XCVR
(1) Epiphyte 75m SSB XCVR

We made almost all the contacts on the Argosy... if you've never operated with one, treat yourself and try it... a very nice radio. The antenna was our field day "standard": 80m dipole at 40', fed with 450 ohm ladder line and used with a tentec antenna tuner.

Summary:

- 32 QSOs made on 40m CW
- 16 states
- 1280 pts
- all Qs made from 2248 -> 0059
- Propagation wasn't all that good until late in the day

We had a lot of fun and made it an overnight campout. When propagation wasn't working for us, we shot some skeet, took digital pictures of the shack, and sat around a fire. It actually snowed on saturday, pretty late in the season even for this area!

Thanks NorCal, for organizing an event surely destined to grow every year... we'll be back next year for sure!

73, Gary N2JGU
gmdsr@vivanet.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: bfollett@ditell.com
Subject: [7860] QTTF - Report from Utah
Message-ID: <199604291747.LAA01274@orion.ditell.com>

Gang:

On Thursday, Nancy & I and the dog left home in our brand-new pop-up tent camper for Canyonlands, UT. After 5 hours of driving, we set up house on BLM land, with free-range cattle moving all about us, about 200 yards from the edge of Canyonlands, with a straight vertical drop of about 1500 ft. I sort of looks like the Grand Canyon, if the water had no place to go :-)

Friday, I set up my R-7 vertical, using three tent pegs and some nylon rope. Then dug out the Autek, to discover that everything resonated properly, except for 30M with it's normal low SWR reading of 2.0. I hooked up the QRP+ to the camper battery, attached the Super Keyer II and my Kent keyer, and was ready for the next morning. Nancy & I spent the rest of Friday riding our mountain bikes,

and taking side trips to the various Canyonland viewpoints.

Contest morning, I gingerly started answering calls, this being my first CW contest, ever! I got into the swing of things, and worked mostly stations in CA, CO, AZ, NM areas, but did manage to work NJ7M in Idaho, K7FD in Oregon, and K5LG in AR. Being so intent on operating, I hardly noticed the wind had increased to about 20-25mph, and with all the windows open, the camper was slowly filling with famous Utah red, limestone sand!

I took a break, closed the windows, had a bite to eat, then resumed "The operating position", only to discover my keyer would send no more dits. I dug out the DVM, and, never trusting my own work, started debugging inside the Super Keyer. Nope, shorting the dit line produced the appropriate output. Well, maybe the cable connections. Checked them twice, finally shorting out the far end, I heard the proper output. Ummmm, that leaves the Kent Key. Three wires and 2 contacts--Doesn't even have any electronic stuff to blame/screw up/fix. Placing the meter across the two contact points, closing the key resulted in Nothing! How could this be? Then I remembered the red dust....Running a towel through the contacts, and testing again, voila! back in business. One half hour killed.

Results? I heard, but did not work the flying Elvis's, AB7PF, but did make my first ever contact with the Chuckmeister, and worked several other Riley, NM folk, as well as a few ScQRPions. 34 contacts in total, mostly on 40M, 9 on 20M, and nada heard on 15 & 10. (I forgot the WARC bands were an option in this event, and 30M was rolling in... oh well). Listened for Dr. Rick, and others on SSB, mostly 20M, but again, nothing. So I ended up making an all CW effort.

Chewing on red sand through the afternoon, I had to take breaks to clean off the table, and wash my mouth out frequently. Finally, after too much copying of the same stations I had already worked, I hung up the keyer, and took a nap, with the camper swaying and the canvas shaking in the strong wind. What a day!

One more day on the site, then we packed it in as the clouds looked threatening, and the wind was still unabated. Today, I get to open the camper, and use the air compressor to try to remove at least some of the sand. What fun!

I can't wait for next year. UFO sites maybe? Thanks to NorCal, Contest Coord. WU7F and NA5N for the promotion efforts on QRP-L.

73, Bob (no longer a CW contest virgin)

Bob Follett WA7FCU, QRP-L # 129, NorCal, ARCI, 10-10
2861 Estates Dr. VOICE: 801.649.6457
Park City, UT 84060 Home Office E-mail: bfollett.ditell.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: Joe Everhart <n2cx@voicenet.com>
Subject: [7865] QTTF 96
Message-ID: <199604291913.PAA06181@mail.voicenet.com>

QRP To The Field was greatly enjoyed by the NJ-qrp'ers! USE of a country site was arranged by one of our members John AA2BN. The site is owned by a fellow ham, though not a qrp'er. It was ideal for our use, consisting of a large cleared field, surrounded by trees on three sides, a fishing pond on the premises and a small lake at one end. Being isolated as it was, the electrical noise was almost non-existent.

NJ QRP'ers who showed up were AA2BN, N2SMH, AA2UJ, WA2ECP, KA5DVS/2, W2GUM, N2CQ, K2HPV, WK8G/2, N2CX and Geo Collier who is not yet licensed. We were prepared! Most of us are not big-time testers, we merely wanted to set up equipment under field conditions and try it out and to check out antennas.

In addition to lots of food, there was an abundance of antennas. The tally I remember is:

N2CQ used a stealth 20 meter folded dipole made of 300 ohm tv twinlead.

WK8G/2 erected another stealth (dark wire) multiband trap dipole.

N2SMH had a telescoping "walking stick" vertical that could also be used to support an inverted vee.

W2GUM put up a full wave 80 meter loop with telescoping masts. His clever design fits inside pvc sewer pipes attached to his car roof. They are painted silver to match Explorer hide their humble origins.

AA2UJ used two NEQRP 20-30 PVC masts with a 100 foot or so random wire. He had wanted to use one of his homebrew kites, but the wind was too variable.

KA5DVS/2 had another stealth antenna some sort of wire strung up in trees on the lake bank.

Yours truly had yet another NEQRP 20-30 PVC mast to support either a 40 or 30 meter inverted vee. I got tired of hoisting antennas up and down, so I used a 20 meter Hamstick/magmount combo on the car for 20 meters .

The good weather conditions offset the generally poor radio propagation. We were a bunch of friendly folks socializing and helping each other out more than racking up any big scores. Everybody got a good chance to see what did and didn't work in preparation for Field day and QRP Afield.

The only thing we had more of than food was gel-cells - everybody brought his

own and KA5DVS/2 brought another half dozen or so!

I'll let the other speak for themselves about scores, but I managed to rack up 40 Q's, 38 within the "best 8 hr period." Of the ones that counted, 33 were on 40, one was on 30 and 6 on 20 meters. The final score was 1560 points.

Managed to work the following qrp-l members that I recognized: AE4IC, N00CT, N4AOX, WK8G/2, N2CQ, N8ET, N2SMH, WA8LCZ, and K9DD. I also heard NA5K while tuning up the Hamstick, but he disappeared once it was ready.

Wow, it sure is fun to do this, but if it happened too often I'm afraid the result would be hazardous to your health!

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

work: jeverhart@cayman.vf.mmc.com

home: n2cx@voicenet.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996

From: Bob_Tellefsen-CNSE97@email.mot.com

Subject: [7862] QTTF de N6WG

Message-ID: <M797901.002.mv6b1.1.960429165858Z.CC-MAIL*/OU=LMPCC10/OU=ILBE/PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/@MHS>

Wow, great day and fun event.

Dwight, WA6NAE and I set up in a local park for the day using his NorCal 40A and the half-loop antenna from the last issue of QRPp.

Worked 49 QSOs at one watt with this antenna plus an Extended Double Zepp on 40 cw, so felt pleased with ourselves. Beat our 42 QSOs of last year, and with half the power, hi. Let's see, 17% improvement with half the power. Would you buy a 34% improvement, then? 5880 point sure beat our last year effort. All the extra stations on this year made the difference. Great appreciation to all those that took the time to dig us out of the noise.

Checking the log afterward, I see we worked more QRP-L stations than I first thought.

Had lots of visitors to the site, Debbie, our blind ham and her room-mate Christy, came by to check us out. It was interesting showing her the difference between ladder line and 300 ohm twinlead. Irv, N6LIT brought pizza at noon to sustain us, and Rich, N6LIM and Randy, KB7VI came by to check out the site possibilities for field day.

Gorgeous day, clear blue sky, beautiful green hills to look at during lulls, good shade trees. Sure beats working for a living.

Took my QRP+ along and some other antennas I've been itching to test. While Dwight was cranking out QSOs, I played antenna nerd and had a ball.

We're ready to go again, anytime. Fall QRP to the Field, anyone?

72 and 73 from Bob N6WG and Dwight WA6NAE

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: "Garry" <garyb@osha.igs.net>
Subject: [7834] qttf from camp x.Oshawa,On.
Message-ID: <199604291143.HAA03807@host.osha.igs.net>

Didn't realize till Saturday how difficult it is to operate a paddle when ones fingers are froizen, it is difficult,even worse wearing gloves! Weather aside (we Canadians are a hardy bunch you understand!) we had a terrific time. Using an Argonaut 2 running 5 watts thru an inverted v we managed 14 qso's on 20 and 23 on 40. Brushed off the snow and made our first contact at 13.54 z and the last 18.17 z. The snow was really starting to come down and besides we thought that getting home early might earn a few brownie points with the xyl's so we could disappear for a few days for field day! A few calls from the list that were worked,vo1drb,n8et and ae4ic. Ops were Bob ve3gnd,John va3je,Jim ve3kqn Gary ve3rep,Art ve3sia. Looking forward to working you on Field Day.

72

Gary

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: [7874] QTTF with rockets
Message-ID: <n1381327456.31919@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>

Fri. got home with a bad headache.

No time nor desire to load car for early start TTF, with W5KA. Actually, only thought was going to be one other than myself, and that was the station trustee K5EJL, Joe. Others had not replied, or said had other schedules Sat.

Sat. got off to an even later start than imagined, but was reasonably sure I had everything. Had not had time to check all batteries, but felt the fall

back could always be the one in the car. Had two fully charged gel cells, (I thought). Another one maybe.

Got to site, a school practice field. See a tall guy down on the field, was it Joe? Went down there with compass to also survey for Field Day June Vee beams. Was not Joe, and several joggers were in evidence. Good bit of wind on high ground, less so at field.

Finally went up the hill to leave a note by parking lot for Joe, and he drives up. Said he had already looked over the field, and was ready for coffee. Adjourned to convenience store down the road.

Much discussion of the three Vee beams to be used in June. Went back and looked over Joe's ideas on siting them up on hill rather than on field itself. Resolved what declination re True North is for this site. Much walking to try to fit terrain and length of Vees and desired coverage. Slowly remembering how to use a map compass. Tried to decide on 30 degree or 40 degree Vee angles vs. available supports, or use of telescoping poles. Some trees in the paths, but will be lower than the ends of Vees, if we use the light poles for supports, or 40 foot poles.

Still wanted to see what the sag was for 330 ft. of 18 gauge copper wire, stretched over goal posts at 10 feet. Went back to field with Joe, no one else seemed to be coming. Pulled tension on the wire, estimate at 50 lbs pull, we had 3 foot sag in 330 feet. wire end that was wrapped on a wrench handle broke where forging of handle formed a burr. By this time, two kids and a Dad on scene, and launching toy rockets at sideline of goal line. Gosh, those are noisy and go up high, but erratically so, in this wind. Little rocket, but wonder what happens if it falls on you from 300 or 400 feet?

Go with Joe to find a stick to run reel on to take up wire now the length of football field. Leave wrench tied on to end, to keep kinks out as we wind it up. Start turning reel flange. 300 feet of wire is a lot to reel up, and with the wrench on end, it is hard to reel! Kids start running back and forth across field, and we wonder if we should ask them not to until we have the trip hazard out of the way. Finally spot wrench end clear of kids. Switch off reel turner, still a long way to go, finally finish. Rockets still being launched.

Go up to parking lot. Joe runs into old friend from Basketball Varsity days. Another 45 minutes go by.

Finally start setting up a station. With only two of us, we decide to set up by parking lot fence, with my Outbacker mobile all band antenna clamped to the fence, but clamp barely goes around the rail so we wedge it on, and use cardtable for transceiver. Hook up gel cells, turn on rig--nothing. Club President has shown up, now the Activities manager, who says he has a boat boxed battery. Now we are cooking! Turn on rig, loud signals, Hook up key,

and Joe calls a station. Disaster--he touched the table, and the signal drifts right off the dial. What's this stability problem? Never have had this happen! Get out DVM, measure the car battery----9 volts, so the VR in the transceiver never has a chance to turn on. Hey, I am surprised the other station even came back, but he did before the drift got him! Key down was 5 watts indicated. The big gel cell I brought says 11.9 Volts, but I am afraid to trust its charge. Frank the activities man offers his truck battery, so he pulls up to one side of the fence, and we use two sets of jumper cables to connect the rig in parallel with his boat battery, and his truck battery. Now we have power, and a stable transceiver.

This site has an electrical noise on 40M, so we move to 20M. Work NY 559, not bad for the Outbacker and 5 watts! (Of course we have a 400 ft. fence counterpoise running North and South.) Wind comes up, just as we sign; down comes the Outbacker. Hits top rail of fence, and bends the stinger at 45 degrees. Put it back up on different method, clamping to top of diamond fence fabric, and wedging PL 259 against top rail. Seems to hold. Switch to SSB. Loud signals heard, other special event station, but QRO beats us out---but wait, the rig did not transmit when the PTT was pushed! Only one mike fits this rig, other mobiles on hand have different plug. Take apart plug, sure enough broken PTT line at solder joint. Take out Radio Shack butane iron, and try to charge it up. Seems charged, gas comes out. Try to light off sparker in cap, too much wind. Frank tries his lighter, too much wind. Go to truck, through gate half a block away, so walk a block to get to truck on other side of fence. After several charges of Butane, and several tries finally get not only ignition, but get the glow plug to heat up and then heat the tip. Soldering the wire is done. Back to rig. Mike works, but wait, ALC light is staying on rather than flashing. Try to adjust, Power has gone to fritz, what is going on, RF feedback? Antenna has fallen couple times in wind--maybe we have a bad internal antenna connection. Look at time, other Saturday projects await. Said I would be done at 1900Z and it is 1930! Decide to adjourn for lunch and home.

Net one QS0!

But this site has promise, good signals to NE, and we heard a G even on 20M cw in spite of all. With decent antennas, even the intermittent electrical noise should be bearable. Talk over with officers that we might get our club member in City Electric Dept. to have the RFI crew go over the lines around the area, and fix that noise by Field Day. Signals to NW were good, and CA, so the site should be productive for field day.

Joe gives up his idea that we would not construct antennas or set up until start of Field Day. I am thankful, for Edsel Murphy really showed up today. Let's hope he stays home in June!

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996

From: N0oct@aol.com
Subject: [7822] QTTF--Wet and Wild...
Message-ID: <960428235103_282963750@emout18.mail.aol.com>

Last year QTTF was on April Fool's day and it snowed. This year it was 50 degrees and raining, and it's almost May.

I combined Turkey Hunting with QTTF this year. Put up a 50' vertical [ok, it was about 5 degrees off of vertical] with four 20' radials, and fed the thing with 100 ohm shielded twinax. The other antenna was a 100' NVIS antenna about 16' off the ground with a 12 ga. wire running along the ground directly beneath it for its full length and then some. Fed this with 300 ohm twinlead.

Ran the Argonaut at just under 1 watt on both 40 and 20. Got on the air about 1430 UTC.

Ran both antennas, and close-in propagation was the pits, even with the NVIS antenna, which is usually a great performer. So I stuck with the vertical most of the day.

Started raining steadily about 2045, and got pretty cold, too. As I was roughing it in the tent, had to keep an eye on the weather [I wanted to be able to get my meager car out of the mud before it got too muddy]. I did not have the advantage of the tent whilst operating--it was about 200 yards away. I *was* up on one of the higher ridges in Lincoln County, MO [not that it helped any]. One thing about being in the country--NO ELECTRICAL NOISE!

I worked a few List members, and can't remember all of them here. I'm terrible with names, but did remember that N2CX was Joe [it helped that he told me that, too]. Well, after being soaked to the skin, I packed it in at 2155. 37 QSO's later here's the log summary:

Toughest QSO: N2JGU on 40 meters. I couldn't even hear him, and then he would whisper a few more letters and numbers. I would have never heard this guy in the city. Wish I would have had my NN1G 40-40--very quiet receiver.

Most Fun QSO: K9PV. He was dodging Packet on 20 meters, and we would send half a call sign, wait, and send the other half after the cricket had chirped. Same with the RST and SPC data. Great sport!

Best DX: KL7JAF on 20. Maybe not the longest distance, but first AK I've heard in a long time. [Possible tie here: was that *really* CT4RL/P I worked on 20, or KA4RL/P with a lousey fist? Can't find KA4RL in the callbook, and CT4RL?? netted me CT4RL back from him.]

My biggest disappointment was not working anyone from SLQS. Oh well, maybe next year. Maybe it'll be sunny. Maybe I'll work 40 meter QRP EME. It could happen.....

72, 73, whatever it takes.

jim n0oct

PS--I logged QRP beacon W3RGQ on Friday, 14.060 at 1700. He was about 559.
PPS--Where was Ernie, W8MVN?

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: JimN0OCT@aol.com
Subject: [7823] Radio Stuff in the Minneapple....
Message-ID: <960429001848_385400699@emout08.mail.aol.com>

Gonna be in Minneapolis for a coupla days...Anybody know of some good surplus places there [for electronic/radio gear] or shops that sell new/used [emphasis on the used] ham radio gear?

Please email me direct. Thanks!

jimn0oct@aol.com

jim n0oct

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: Brian Cieslak <bcieslak@merge.com>
Subject: [7844] Ramsey 2m Rcvr ?
Message-ID: <199604291527.KAA22740@world.merge.com>

What is the motorola chip used in the ramsey and MFj 2 meter rcvr kits. Is there an output where I could snatch the signal off before the discriminator. the ultimate goal is a CW/SSB receiver.

Please reply direct..new employer isn't too keen on us subscribing to lists that generate a lot of mail.

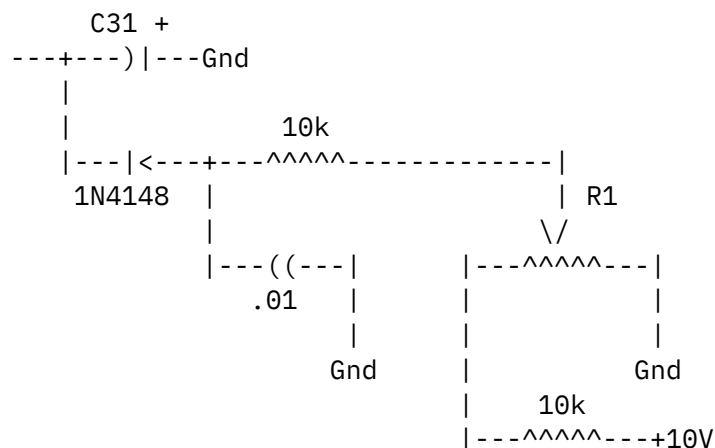
Brian AE9K

bcieslak@merge.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: "Mark B. Peterson" <70233.1106@compuserve.com>
Subject: [7861] RF Gain Control
Message-ID: <960429180852_70233.1106_JHD158-1@CompuServe.COM>

Many AGC/filter issues in the QRP++ can be cured through addition of an RF gain control. The circuit below is from Bruce Franklin. Bruce has not yet been able to find the "best" dual pot and none with an on/off switch. The Clarostat referred to here works but sticks out somewhat from the front panel. Maybe use the hole where the mic gain pot used to be for a on/off toggle switch.

Add the following before C31 on the AF board



R1: Clarostat series 308/309 dual concentric, 10k each
 10V: Can be picked off at many points on the AF board
 Use the other concentric 10k pot for AF gain control.

P.S. I live about 2 miles from Bruce, so I can usually just "drop in" for the latest.

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: Mike Robinson <miker@cc.com>
Subject: [7841] RS DSP
Message-ID: <9604291434.AA01725@voder.nsc.com>

My local Radio Shack has 2 DSP units at \$40.

If you want one and can't find one, I'd be happy to get it and send it to you.

\$40 + 6% tax + \$4 shipping = \$46.40

```
=====
NCARC Superfest, June 1st, Larimer County Fairgrounds, Colorado
=====
7.3 de Michael AA0UB          miker@cc.com          michael@frii.com
      http://www.frii.com/~michael
      QRP-L #126      Norcal #857      CQC #180
=====
```

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: victorj@fast.net
Subject: [7856] Sierra
Message-ID: <m0uDwgD-0002aTC@fast.net>

The receiver sensitivity is not what I think it should be. My HW8 is much more sensitive. I may only hear one or two signals on the Sierra but the hw 8 picks up many more. I rechecked the voltages on the active parts and they are fine. This occurs with all band modules. I also adjusted the AGC with out any improvement. Any suggestions?
Thanks Vic WM3B (email victorj@fast.net)
NorCal ARCI

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: Jeff Gold <JMG@tntech.edu>
Subject: [7863] small keys
Message-ID: <01I445SQE0UA9ANSKA@tntech.edu>

HELLO THERE,

I HAVE AVAILABLE SEVERAL MINIATURE MORSE CODE KEYS. THEY WERE MADE IN FRANCE FOR THE SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY. THEY ARE MADE OF CHROME PLATED BRASS ON A BLACK PLASTIC BASE, WITH A MILD STEEL SLIDING COVER.

THESE KEYS ARE PERFECT FOR FIELD DAYS AND QRP EVENTS. THE

COST IS ONLY US\$20.00 PLUS US\$3.00 FOR AIR POSTAGE.

PAYMENT CAN BE MADE BY VISA OR MASTERCARD, OR BY BANK
TRANSFER TO:

LIEBERMAN AMATEUR RADIO (PTY) LTD
STANDARD BANK OF SOUTH AFRICA
BERGVLEI BRANCH (CODE 00 88 05 03)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: Jeff Gold <JMG@tntech.edu>
Subject: [7864] small morse keys
Message-ID: <01I4473VM82U9ANSKA@tntech.edu>

Sorry,

I just got this off the newsgroup and thought I would just point
it out. I have nothing to do with it in any way, nor do I know
anything about it.

Jeff, AC4HF

> Subj: FS. COLLECTORS MORSE KEYS
>
> X-News: atlas.tntech.edu rec.radio.amateur.equipment:18434
> From: marc lurie <marc.lurie@pixie.co.za>
> Subject:FS. COLLECTORS MORSE KEYS
> Date: 26 Apr 1996 17:54:38 GMT
> Message-ID:<41r2ku\$m4o@hawk.pix.za>
>
> HELLO THERE,
>
> I HAVE AVAILABLE SEVERAL MINIATURE MORSE CODE KEYS. THEY
> WERE MADE IN FRANCE FOR THE SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY. THEY ARE
> MADE OF CHROME PLATED BRASS ON A BLACK PLASTIC BASE, WITH A
> MILD STEEL SLIDING COVER.
>
> THESE KEYS ARE PERFECT FOR FIELD DAYS AND QRP EVENTS. THE
> COST IS ONLY US\$20.00 PLUS US\$3.00 FOR AIR POSTAGE.
>
> PAYMENT CAN BE MADE BY VISA OR MASTERCARD, OR BY BANK
> TRANSFER TO:
>
> LIEBERMAN AMATEUR RADIO (PTY) LTD
> STANDARD BANK OF SOUTH AFRICA

> BERGVLEI BRANCH (CODE 00 88 05 03)
> ACCOUNT NUMBER 200 141 805
>
> PLEASE CONTACT MARC ZS6HZ AT zs6hz@pixie.co.za OR TEL. +27 11 444-
> 0444, FAX +27 11 444-0459 WITH CARD NUMBER AND EXPIRATION DATE,
> OR BANK XFER DETAILS.
>
>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: QLF@mimi@magic.itg.ti.com
Subject: [7839] SOLDERING STATIONS
Message-ID: <9604291357.AA10352@itg.ti.com>

From: Brad Bradfield QLF

Subj: SOLDERING STATIONS

Just as a trailer to the thread from some weeks back about where to locate decent soldering stations. I located a Weller EC-2000 electronically controlled station for \$15 at a garage sale. This sucker is deluxe with an LED display to set and monitor tip temperature. Keep your eyes open guys, the deals are out there.

73's

Brad, WB0CGH

Brad Bradfield, PE Electrical Design Engineer
(H) 817-321-2960 Texas Instruments, Inc.
(W) 214-462-6230

QLF@MSG.TI.COM

WB0CGH@W05H.#DFW.TX.USA.NA

ARRL Life Member QRP-L #377 SMIRK #4906 IEEE(M)
Collector of wireless and landline Morse keys and accessories.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: robert bell <rbell@uniserve.com>
Subject: [7824] Spot switch for Sierra
Message-ID: <96Apr28.214004pdt.37826-141+1290@haven.uniserve.com>

Hi, I would like to add a spotting switch to my Sierra and as far as I can tell, I could achieve this by connecting a switch to pin 3 of U1 allowing me to ground pin 3 and thus switch on sidetone without keying the tx. Is this correct or is there a better way? Also has anyone made up a list of mods for the Sierra? I know they are all contained in back issues of QRPp but at the moment I can't afford to send for the back issues.
Thanks in advance for any help.

Rob (VE7IGZ)

Thanks and 72

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: Phil Polizzo <philp@cyberlynk.com>
Subject: [7829] Test Equipt. Reference book
Message-ID: <31846799.5E46@cyberlynk.com>

I recently posted a msg looking for a book on using Test Equipt.

One reference was to a RSGB hand book. Well, after a good wait, I have not heard back from RSGB, whom I have sent a request for a potential source for the book.

so again, if anyone knows of a good book that is readily available, That covers the use of all(-) major test equipt. I am sure that I along with my fellow QRPers would benefit greatly.

I know myself, that it has been quite some time since I first had my hands on most stuff, not to mention forgetting all the "short-cuts" and "tricks" learned along the way.

72 de Phil AC6LS ac6ls@amsat.org

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: Dan Puckett <af045@dayton.wright.edu>
Subject: [7826] Travelin'
Message-ID: <9604290531.AA12124@dayton.wright.edu>

Hello all.

I'm going to be in Owego, NY Monday night. Is there anything happening

in Owego on Monday. Wednesday I'll be in Princeton, NJ. What is of interest in Princeton?

Dan WD8AAU
af045@dayton.wright.edu

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: Jerry <jfelts@rapidcity.com>
Subject: [7828] Want defective mouse
Message-ID: <199604290617.AAA26718@host1.rapidcity.com>

Anybody out there have a defective mouse? I've tried 2 computer stores here in Rapid City and no dice.

Jerry NR5A

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: Brad Mugleston <bmug@gw1.com>
Subject: [7840] XYL leaving me - QSO anyone?
Message-ID: <199604291354.AA15360@gp-ipc54.gw1.com>

Well, shes leaving me again (weekend trip with friends ;^) so Im taking Thursday and Friday off this week (May 2 & 3). Between running the kids to school and wherever Im going to try to get on the air while the sun's up and no ones home. I know Ill have time between 6:30am and 8 MST (12:30Z to 14:00Z) both days and on Thursday between 18:45Z and 20:00Z. I will also try nights (Wed Thru and Fri) so Put your ears on Big Buddies and give me a shout (gee I always wanted to say that --- TOO many Smokey and the Bear Movies)

Actually, Having never really been on the air during the day - at least not with out a lot of distractions - what should I expect out of the NOVICE freq's. Now that I have my TS-830S (and Derek will be in School) I will be able to try them all.

Thanks,

de KB0ROL, Brad - QTH Aurora, CO

Oh yea, the XYL will be home Saturday evening, so Sat afternoon I will be cleaning house.

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: Price_Joe/nsih1_RICHARDSON/alcatel/US/Telemail/
alcanet@audopen.aud.alcatel.com
Subject: [7866] Yaesu/Icom help
Message-ID: <H00004a20233b9a1@MHS>

Hi, gang - - -

I've been reading this list for a while, now, and I need to tap the expertise here for a little help on a couple of pieces of equipment.

First, as I return to "active status" on the bands, I have gained use of an old Yaesu FT-101E. I noticed that it has a transverter output ahead of the tube driver/finals.

Can this be used for qrp output, with a suitable matching network? Or is it only useful on 10m? What kind of impedance/level/etc. could I expect here?

Also, there is a 10 mHz WWV position. Would I be able to use it for 30m?

I hope to get a trap dipole antenna up soon, just as soon as the local wx turns bad (I have learned that's necessary for it to work).

Before asking this, I did a search through the qrp-l archives with no success.

Secondly, on a different vein, I recently purchased an Icom IC-2A. This is my first working rig in years, and where I intend to use it, I have discovered that the repeaters are "open, with PL". Is there an internal PL card for this, or something reasonable?

I live in Plano, TX (dallas is our southern suburb, but please don't hold that against me), but I am from the West Texas area near Lubbock and Littlefield. Any qrp'er's out there?

Tnx, Joe WA5UNK
joe_price@aud.alcatel.com
QRP-L #476 NTRAK NCAT

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: George Dorner <gdorner@kiwi.pyrotechnics.com>
Subject: [7846] Re: 40 Meter Field Day Quad
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.960429104727.17060A-100000@kiwi.pyrotechnics.com>

On Fri, 26 Apr 1996 ka0yos@arn.net wrote:

>... looking for a QST article from the early 70s about a 40 meter quad for Field Day use.

Do you mean a wire quad? Or something rotatable! I'll check my archives.
geo/w9zsjs

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: art.searle@asb.com
Subject: [7849] Re: Antenna Switch
Message-ID: <9604291207.0H1L500@asb.com>

Subject: Antenna switch - the bane of my front end?

Clark, WA3JPG writes:

>Date: Thu, 25 Apr 1996

>Geez, anyone understand this? I sent a note about my B&W antenna
>switch seeming to introduce all sorts of garbage to my receivers
>coming through it due to strong local AM BC. It goes away if I
>connect my antenna directly though to my receivers. It also goes
>away if I put a good bandpass tuner in line.

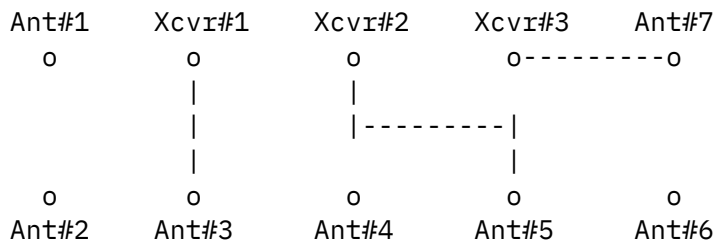
Hi Clark,

Regarding your problem with switches, I visited ARRL HQ a number of years ago after the radio building renovation and I can tell you how they simply handled this problem. No Switches, they used jumpers and it works for any number of rigs and antennas.

Here's how:

Get a piece of plywood or plexiglass about 2 feet square (you decide). Drill holes approx 4 inches apart in a symmetrical pattern...your choice of. The holes should be the outside diameter of thru-the-wall coax connectors with SO-239's on both ends. Mount all of your transceivers and antenna permanently to the back side. Make up some short jumpers. You can now jump connect any radio to any antenna, all at the same time and never have a poor connection due to a bad switch. Make sure that you label everything accurately on the front side so

you know what you've connected to what.



Here is my attempt at a graphic representation. In this case, Rig #1 is connected to Ant #3, Rig #2 is connected to Ant # 5 and Rig #3 is connected to Ant #7.

Good luck with your problem and 72 de Art WU2K

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996

From: Dick <G0BPS@kanga.demon.co.uk>

Subject: [7831] Re: Battery Charger/Eliminator

Message-ID: <klaxgSANxzgxEwqG@kanga>

In message <199604280411.AAA17343@mh004.infi.net>, BOB KELLOGG

<ae4ic@nr.infi.net> writes

>Hi Phil,

>

>You said:

>

>>Good-luck Chuck. I use this type of "charger" all the time, I use a
>>small lamp in parralle and if picked just right it will draw the excess
>>current off when the battery is fully charged.

OK But what was the lamp?

a pea bulb or a WW2 searchlite ??

>

TTFN de ..

Dick Pascoe G0BPS / G0R00

Please send replies ONLY to: Dick@kanga.demon.co.uk

Kanga Products The UK's leading supplier of QRP kits.
<http://ukinternet.com/ham/kanga>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: Ken Newman N2CQ <103464.1355@CompuServe.COM>
Subject: [7820] Re: elp! Would like address VK4XA
Message-ID: <960429032937_103464.1355_IHI99-1@CompuServe.COM>

Kevin needed Callbook address for VK4XA....
1995 "Flying Horse" callbook address is:
S R Coleston
17 Fisher Pde
Geebung Qid 4034
Australia

Good luck on the QSL

72 de Ken - N2CQ * ARCI 7975 * NJ-QRP 21 * NE-QRP 458 * QRP-L 399

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: "Brian.Buydens@usask.ca" <buydens@duke.usask.ca>
Subject: [7871] Re: Foot Mobile advice sought
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.960429143413.55A-100000@duke.usask.ca>

On Mon, 29 Apr 1996, David Adams wrote:

> I'm not sure how to go about this. I could just bring code tapes,
> but they aren't much good after you've heard them once or twice. I
> could through a qrp rig in my pack (as I have plenty of room for an
> explorer and battery or 40-9er), but that leaves an antenna issue.
> Something which could pull in the signals without being overtly
> large...go figure.
>
> Maybe I should build one of those pocket morse trainer things? Any
> pointers here?
>
> Lemme know if you have any suggestions..

I have a 45 min. commute each day one way to work. To practice code I
have a computer program generate tapes from text files. One of my
favourites is listening to Monty Python's Holy Grail. I listen to a tape
around twice or three times and then have the next bit of the Holy Grail put
on tape. (I even got practice with some numbers "My sister was once
bitten by a m00se..." ;-)

>

```
> dave
> .
>
> ---
> =====
> David J Adams                N9UXU QRP-L #83
> dave@flowserver.stem.com     NorCal QRP #1442
> (415) 813-5028               Flow Cytometry Specialist
>
>
>
```

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+-----+
| Brian Buydens, Computing Services, University of Saskatchewan |
| email: Brian.Buydens@usask.ca |
| VE5RDV |
+-----+
| Albert Einstein, when asked to describe radio, replied: "You see, wire |
| telegraph is a kind of a very, very long cat. You pull his tail in New |
| York and his head is meowing in Los Angeles. Do you understand this? |
| And radio operates exactly the same way: you send signals here, they |
| receive them there. The only difference is that there is no cat." |
+-----+
```

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: Dale Anderson <dalea@artemis.fc.hp.com>
Subject: [7872] Re: Foot Mobile advice sought
Message-ID: <199604292109.AA128512148@artemis.fc.hp.com>

>have a computer program generate tapes from text files. One of my
>favourites is listening to Monty Python's Holy Grail. I listen to a tape

I do something similar to this. I refrain from reading some of the posts to QRP-L and save them to text files (stripped of their headers and footers). I then feed 'em to a homebrew'd CW prog I wrote. I make tapes of these at a CW speed a little faster than I'm comfortable with. I listen to these while on the road. This way, I HEAR your email in CW. Hey, it's the closest I'll get to "hearing" most of you. Granted, the text format isn't typical of most QSO's but it still gives me 40min/day of CW practice even on days when I don't have't time to get on the air. Also, driving while listening forces me to learn to copy without writing.

72/73!

-Dale, KB0VCC

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: Grover Cleveland <groverc@gvgadg.gvg.tek.com>
Subject: [7859] Re: Non-symmetric dipole in QST
Message-ID: <3184FC5A.3818@gvgadg.gvg.tek.com>

This sounds like a Windom or something close - I have one and it works fine.

Grover WT6P

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: Tim Pettibone <tpettibo@nmsu.edu>
Subject: [7858] Re: NorCal "QRP To The Field", '96
Message-ID: <199604291723.LAA11458@NMSU.Edu>

Jay:

What a blast. Actually I made 82 contacts with 2 dupes and, when I tried to find the "best" consecutive 8 hours (with lots of exploring/break time), I ended up with 67 contacts. Which, by my calculations, turns out to be 2,680 points. Of course, when you sent me up the hill a 1/2 mile, there wasn't much else to do but operate. My best dx was also HP1AC/QRP. Didn't count up the states/provinces, but there were a bunch. Put up a 180' zepp fed with 450 ohm line. Center was up at 25', ends were 1-2" off the ground. Also used hamsticks on 20/40m.

For those of you unfamiliar with Riley, it really ("riley") is a ghost town. Jan, the YF, explored around with a metal detector, and found lots of tin cans but no hidden treasure.

Left before dark as the wind was blowing too hard to stay the night. Got back to Las Cruces around 9pm. Just in time to shower off the red dust, pop open a beer, and start typing in the log. My only loss was a transmission (partial) that stopped working when I drove into the garage!

Can't wait until next year. Where we going Paul/Jay?

Tim AB50U

p.s. It was fun meeting others including Chuck and Doug!

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: prvalko <prvalko@Oakland.edu>
Subject: [7837] Re: QRP Afield Report
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.960429092939.15905A-1000000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

On Sun, 28 Apr 1996, Bill Kelsey - N8ET - Kanga US wrote:

> The kite has
> been featured in several pictures in 73 magazine over the years. It is
> a delta wing kite with a wingspan of 8 feet. Jan uses up to 2000' of
> nylon line to fly the kite. The kite was launched and several hundred
> feet of line were fed out before the long wire was attached to the
> kite line using gray tape.

Don't take the wrong, but, Kids, don't try this at home!

This is incredible dangerous and I find it hard to believe that a national magazine would feature kite (or balloon)supported antennae. As a member of the AKA (American Kiteflyers Association) of of our "rules" is to never fly wire line kites (as appealing as it sounds to ME as a ham).

There are two reasons that come to mind immediately.

Catastrophic failure of the wire or line could cause the "antenna" to free-fly miles away from the launch site, possibly dropping across high-tension power lines and of course possibly causing fires, electrocution, or blackouts.

The second reason has something to due with static charge over ground elevation - I remember from college physics (help me here, Chuck). I believe the figure was 50v induced per meter. So an antenna supported at 100M could generate 5000v of static charge. I believe WX and wind actually could increase this substantially.

"Getting away with it" is a whole lot different than being safe.

73! =paul= wb8zjl

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: art.searle@asb.com
Subject: [7848] Re: QRP Digest & 10K pot
Message-ID: <9604291208.0H1MM00@asb.com>

Re: QRP Digest 341 & NC40A pot

Thanks to all who answered my 2 questions as follows:

1) How to retrieve lost QRP-L Digest

Send this message

GET QRP-L/DIGEST #

I tried it and it worked, thanks.

2) Where to get 10 to 1 10K pot, Mouser has \$100 minimum.

My ERROR, Mouser does not have a minimum. I misread their Web page.

Thanks es 72, de Art WU2K

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: "Brian.Buydens@usask.ca" <buydens@duke.usask.ca>
Subject: [7857] Re: QTTF
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.960429111756.22933A-1000000@duke.usask.ca>

On Mon, 29 Apr 1996, chuck adams wrote:

> So off to the airport, make the flight, we're on the way to
> San Jose ^h^h^h^h oops (wrong song) that's next Saturday after
 ^^^

Neyah. You must have taken a wrong turn at Albuquerque! ;-)

> the NorTex meeting. I get into Albuquerque, NM about 5pm, take a
> cab to a mall to kill about 4 hours (got a good deal on a house, but
> didn't take it) and then back to the airport to wait for Doug
> KI6DS. He gets in at midnight then Jay WA5WHN and his son
> Jason pick us up in front of the terminal. You can't get any
> better service than that anywhere. Doug and I didn't even
> have to whip out the passports either. :-)
>


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+-----+
| Brian Buydens, Computing Services, University of Saskatchewan |
| email: Brian.Buydens@usask.ca |
| VE5RDV |
+-----+
| Albert Einstein, when asked to describe radio, replied: "You see, wire |
| telegraph is a kind of a very, very long cat. You pull his tail in New |
| York and his head is meowing in Los Angeles. Do you understand this? |
| And radio operates exactly the same way: you send signals here, they |
| receive them there. The only difference is that there is no cat." |
+-----+
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From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: Steve Thompson AB7PF <kj7dn@primenet.com>
Subject: [7873] Re: QTTF (reply to Chuck Adams)
Message-ID: <Pine.BSD.3.91.960429142040.27846B-1000000@usr1.primenet.com>

On Mon, 29 Apr 1996, chuck adams wrote:

> Highlights.

>

> 2. Riley wins the wind award with gusts over 50mph.

You aren't kidding ... lifted the rig and paddle right off the table a couple times while I was operating! AB7PF/"Air Mobile" kept right on going, despite the bumps.

> 5. Fly over by the AZ group. That alone was worth the plane
> ticket to get there. This group gets my vote for the most
> dedication and most unusual location. Thanks guys.

Chuck, you're welcome ... lots o' fun for all. Had three ops, but those gusts and INCREDIBLE turbulence on the deck put one operator out of commission (terribly air sick ... thank God for sick-sacs!) and another op was feeling "close" to sick. So, kept *me* really busy trying to keep things going up there in the rear cabin. Good thing I wasn't flying this time!

> 6. No rattlesnakes, no scorpions, and no centipedes spotted.

We did, by the way, have two scQRPions in our cabin. But, they were the friendly type ... hi.

73,

Steve - AB7PF

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+-----+
|
| Steve C. Thompson - AB7PF      ----- E-mail kj7dn@primenet.com
| Manager of Info. Technology  ----/---- steve@cpginc.com
| Continental Promotion Group  ----/H----
| Tempe, AZ, USA                H        Current Projects:
|                                H        Explorer II 40M, 40-40
|                                H
| 602.731.3535                   H        QRP-L #259   scQRPions #1
| 602.921.8825 X535               H        NWQRP #387   NorCal #1516
|
+-----+
```

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: burdick@interval.com (Wayne Burdick)
Subject: [7878] Re: Sierra
Message-ID: <v02130509adab1f1fe847@[199.170.106.28]>

Vic, the Sierra should blow away your HW8. You've got a component or wiring problem that I should be able to help you with if you could give me a bit more detail. The most important question is: did you go through the troubleshooting steps listed in the manual? Nine times out of ten it's a non-stripped toroid lead or cold solder joint. Please let me know your results--

73,
Wayne
N6KR

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: Jerome Doerrie <k5is@arn.net>
Subject: [7838] Re: test equipment
Message-ID: <199604291345.IAA22107@arnet.arn.net>

Phil was asking about a book that covers the major test equipment. It is difficult to find material that is on the readers level...and test equipment and operations is an area that is difficult to find in the "hammy mags".

I would call attention to chapter 7 in SOLID STATE DESIGN FOR THE

RADIO AMATEUR by Hayward and DeMaw (ARRL at \$15) as an introduction to voltage measurement, audio voltmeters, signal sources, and bridge circuits. While some of the components are now difficult to find, this book is a classic and no you cannot borrow mine!

Science Workshop, Box 310, Bethpage, NY 11714 for \$24.95 has put together reprints of articles, and user modifications, directions for building the "POOR MAN'S" Spectrum Analyzer. For about \$400 or less, depending on the features desired, one can have a very useful test instrument.

One of the best general interest articles that I have seen is BASIC TEST MEASUREMENTS AND TEST EQUIPMENT FOR THE MICROWAVE AMATEUR. Don't panic at the word "microwave." This was written by Paul Finell W7EFQ for the PROCEEDINGS OF MICROWAVE UPDATE '88 PUBLISHED by ARRL at \$12. Paul covers the why, what, and how to in a very informative article.

TAB Books from time to time prints a volume on specific items such as oscilloscopes, VTVMs, and how to service...tv's, vcr, etc.

I have found attending vhf conferences such as CENTRAL STATES VHF SOCIETY, and MICROWAVE UPDATE to be a good source of visiting with professionals in the electronics field and obtaining unpublished information.

Some RSGB books are available from ARRL and/or Ham Radio Bookstore.

Good luck in finding the desired information.

73 es 72, Jerome K5IS

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996

From: Dick <G0BPS@kanga.demon.co.uk>

Subject: [7832] Re: Test Equipt. Refrence book

Message-ID: <o\$eImPAbSIhxEwyb@kanga>

In message <31846799.5E46@cyberlynk.com>, Phil Polizzo

<philp@cyberlynk.com> writes

>I recently posted a msg looking for a book on using Test Equipt.

>

>One refrence was to a RSGB hand book. Well, after a good wait,

>I have not heard back from RSGB, whom I have sent a request for

>a potential source for the book.

You havn't heard back from the RSGB, well that must be a first!

First time today that is, they are notorious for non, or late replies

>

>so again, if anyone knows of a good book that is readily avalible,

>That covers the use of all(-) major test equipt. I am shure

>that I along with my fellow QRPers would benifit greatly.

The book is called "Test equipment for the Radio Amateur" by HL Gibson

G2BUP, Published by the RSGB. ISBN 0 900612 41 X

I have a copy on my shelf, it covers....

Curent & Voltage measurement
Frequency " " "
Wavemeters
RF Power " " " " " "
Aerial & Transmission line " " " "
Noise " " " "
Components, valves & semiconductors
Signal sources & attenuators
Oscillasopes & modulation monitors
Power supplies
Reference Data.

It is quite handy but not the bible I thought it might be...

TTFN de ...

Dick Pascoe G0BPS / G0R00

Please send replies ONLY to: Dick@kanga.demon.co.uk

Kanga Products The UK's leading supplier of QRP kits.
<http://ukinternet.com/ham/kanga>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Apr 29 22:54:26 1996
From: bkmak@airmail.net (Bob Kmak)
Subject: [7869] Re: Yaesu/Icom help
Message-ID: <m0uDz5j-000FJlC@mail.airmail.net>

Joe,

I suppose you could use the transverter output, but it's much easier to simply turn down the drive level -- it's a front panel control concentric with the mic gain.
I can turn down the RF out on mine to below 1 watt.

The 101E won't transmit on 30m, not out of the box anyway. You would have to modify it, probably installing a crystal or two and retuning some stuff. I could dig up more info if you're interested.

73,

Bob KC5RAS